

Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and all members of the Judiciary Committee:

**I respectfully write to you to ask you to OPPOSE SB 16: An Act Addressing Gun Violence and Juvenile Crime.**

I think we can all agree that parts of this bill are laudable. As a citizen of this state, I too want a reduction in crime and especially juvenile crime, as those juveniles are at risk of becoming adult criminals. I too want more police on the street and want programs to help curb “gun” violence, well, all violence really. We have a major problem with recidivism, and I too want that stopped.

As a gun owner in this state however, I cannot tolerate the Governor’s caustic rhetoric on “too many damn guns”. I was not at all shocked to hear that from him, especially with the anti-gun cronies behind him. Then I read Senate Bill 16, and I became further incensed.

I OPPOSE SB 16. Not just because its obnoxious to my Rights as a gun owner, but because most of those measures would prove futile to reducing crime. Further, I find any effort to require citizens to show a permit on demand with no reasonable suspicion of a crime to be onerous and tantamount to harassment of legal gun owners.

**I also OPPOSE H.B. No. 5416 – An Act Concerning Bulk Purchases of Pistols and Revolvers.** I see no legitimate reason to limit the activities of legal gun owners purchasing what they may, as in the case of buying a third party’s collections of firearms in one lot.

**I SUPPORT Raised S.B. No. 388 – An Act Concerning the Defense of a Person or a Person’s Dwelling, Place of Work or Motor Vehicle.** It simply makes sense to allow someone to protect themselves to the furthest extent necessary when threatened with deadly force in their home, work environment, or motor vehicle without the duty to retreat.

**I SUPPORT Raised H.B. No. 5415 – An Act Concerning the Transfer of Assault Weapons and Large Capacity Magazines.** It makes serves no purpose and will not prevent crime to limit the transfer of assault weapons and high capacity magazines between registered owners who are already legally in possession of such items.

**I SUPPORT Raised H.B. No. 5412 – An Act Concerning the Duty to Retreat in a Religious House of Worship.** As I support S.B. No. 388, I see no purpose in forcing a duty of retreat upon anyone who must use deadly force to protect oneself and others in a house of worship.

Yours truly

*Daniel J. Whelan*

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